

⌈ Please amend Claim 1 as follows.

1. (Amended) An oxygen scavenging packet, comprising:

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a. an oxygen permeable material formed into a closed packet for holding an oxygen absorber;

b. an oxygen absorber comprising iron within the packet of (a); and

c. a liquid oxygen uptake accelerator, said accelerator comprising water, said accelerator being present in an amount relative to the amount of said oxygen absorber, such that when the liquid accelerator and oxygen absorber are brought into contact, the oxygen absorber is capable of reducing the oxygen content of a predetermined volume containing about 2 vol% oxygen to less than 0.5 vol% oxygen at a temperature of about 34°F in no more than 90 minutes after said accelerator and oxygen absorber are brought into contact

[an iron based oxygen absorber; and

an oxygen uptake accelerator comprising water, said oxygen uptake accelerator present in said packet in an amount between .2 ml and .8 ml per approximately 2.5 grams of said iron based oxygen absorber].

⌈ Please enter the following new Claims 11-21.

11. An oxygen scavenging packet of Claim 1, wherein said oxygen absorber of (b) further comprises silica gel and a carbon dioxide generator.

12. An oxygen scavenging packet of Claim 1, wherein said iron is electrolytically annealed and reduced.

13. An oxygen scavenging packet of Claim 1, wherein said oxygen uptake accelerator further comprises a salt.

~~14.~~ An oxygen scavenging packet of Claim 1, wherein said oxygen uptake accelerator further comprises an acid.

~~15.~~ An oxygen scavenging packet of Claim 1, wherein said oxygen uptake accelerator is contained within an enclosed space within said packet.

~~16.~~ An oxygen scavenging packet of Claim 1, wherein said oxygen uptake accelerator is contained within a bibulous wick, said wick extending from the exterior of said packet into the interior of said packet.

~~17.~~ A method of reducing the oxygen concentration in an enclosed space comprising:

a. placing an oxygen scavenging packet within said enclosed space, said oxygen scavenging packet comprising:

i. an oxygen permeable material formed into a closed packet; and

ii. an oxygen absorber within said closed packet, said oxygen absorber comprising iron;

b. introducing a liquid oxygen uptake accelerator comprising water directly onto said oxygen absorber, wherein said liquid oxygen uptake accelerator is introduced in an amount relative to the amount of said oxygen absorber, such that when the oxygen uptake accelerator and oxygen absorber are brought into contact, the oxygen absorber is capable of reducing the oxygen content of a predetermined volume containing about 2 vol% oxygen to less than 0.5 vol% oxygen at a temperature of about 34°F in no more than 90 minutes after said oxygen uptake accelerator and oxygen absorber are brought into contact.

~~18.~~ A method of Claim ~~17~~, wherein said oxygen absorber further comprises silica gel and a carbon dioxide generator.

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